Custodial deaths

*320. SHRI SANATAN BISI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 888 people died in police custody in 1997; and

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) and (b) According to the information received by the National Human Rights Commission from the States/Union territories, there were 191 deaths in police custody during the year 1997 as per details given in the enclosed statement.

Statement

Deaths in Police Custody during the year 1997

1.	Andhra Pradesh	16
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	02
3.	Assam	15
4.	Bihar	09
5.	Goa	—
6.	Gujarat	11
7.	Haryana	03
8.	Himachal Pradesh	—
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	03
10.	Karnataka	05
11.	Kerala	05
12.	Madhya Pradesh	18
13.	Maharashtra	20
14.	Manipur	01
15.	Meghalaya	02
16.	Mizoram	—
17.	Nagaland	01
18.	Orissa	02
19.	Punjab	09
20.	Rajasthan	12
21.	Sikkim	—
22.	Tamil Nadu	12
23.	Tripura	03
24.	Uttar Pradesh	19
25.	West Bengal	12
26.	Andaman & Nicobar	—
27.	Chandigarh	—
28.	Dadra Nagar Haveli	—
29.	Daman & Diu	—
30.	Delhi	11
31.	Lakshadweep	—
32.	Pondicherry	—
	TOTAL	191

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Irregularity in the purchase of electrical items by M.E.S.

2284. SHRI RAHASBIHARI BARIK: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether rampant corruption in the purchase of electrical items by M.E.S. has been noticed during each of the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the criteria fixed by the M.E.S. for the purchases;

(d) the number of persons found involved in violating the criteria fixed in this regard during the above period; and

(e) the action taken by Government against each of them?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Purchases of items by MES are generally made on DGS&D rate